

## The stuff of legends

Page 4



## Women's lacrosse prepares for first match

Page 6



# The Alabamian

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## Sides reveal College Night signs

By JAMIE HAAS

On the evening of Jan. 28, 2016, Purple and Gold students gathered outside Farmer Hall to take part in the annual tradition

of unveiling the College Night signs. These artistic structures advertise and hint toward the themes of this year's side shows. The event began with over-

lapping side cheers and chants, pumping the crowd full of energy and anticipation.

Not to be forgotten, though, are the artists who worked tire-

lessly in order to present the student body with the creative clues contained within the signs.

Benjamin Kaiser, senior and Gold Side sign creator, admitted to giving up a portion of his Christmas break in order to work on the sign. "It takes a lot of hard work and dedication," Kaiser said. "Really it's just a lot of building and painting when you need to be doing everything else in life. Every year I get one point under perfect, so this year I was like it's go big or go home, and if I don't get a perfect score this time, that's it. I've tried my best."

As both Purple Side sign creator and a cast member, Mary Grace Tracy discussed pooling hers and director James Powers' visions into a single concept. The two wanted to bring as many elements of the show into the sign as possible without giving away the theme entirely.

"My original idea gave away too much for the show, and Shelby Mays, who's building the set this year, gave me a better idea that was more of a hint rather than just giving it away," Tracy said. "[Not giving away the entire

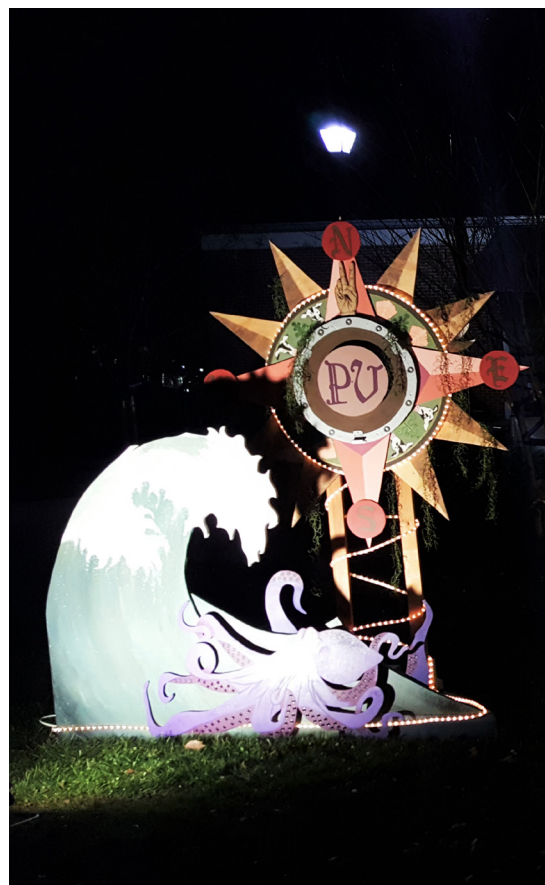
concept of the show] is difficult. I want to throw all of it into the sign and make it awesome, but I do have to hold back a little."

Of course, with the reveal of the signs come the guesses of what stories the shows will tell this College Night season.

Purple Side member and communication studies major Ryan Ahrendt shared his theories of what his side's show will entail. "I want to say the show will fall into an adventurous genre," Ahrendt said. "I kind of got a 'Peter Pan' vibe, I think from the compass and maybe even a little bit of a 'Moby Dick' feeling even though it was an octopus instead of a whale. But I'm definitely expecting big adventure."

Freshman and Gold Side member Savannah Willard shared her ideas about Gold Side's production. She guessed the show could potentially include murder mystery elements and likely deals with a casino.

These secret plots will be revealed on Wednesday, Feb. 10 in Palmer Hall during the first public College Night shows of 2016. Meanwhile, the next event members can get pumped for will occur on Saturday, Feb. 6 during the College Night ultimate frisbee game.



The Purple Side sign was created by Mary Grace Tracy and Ben Kaiser designed the Gold Side Sign.



Russell Alicea and Jasmyne Ray | The Alabamian

## Digital Media Lab receives upgrade

By DANIELLE STALLWORTH



The old Digital Media Lab was located in a converted storage closet for three years.

This semester, students may have noticed a change in the main floor of Carmichael Library. The Digital Media Lab (DML) now has a new and improved space that offers UM students and faculty an array of opportunities to use advanced technology for media projects.

"A lot of students that know me and have seen me working in the old DML have said 'It finally happened,'" said Michael Price, the Digital Media and 3D Print Lab Manager, "And I say 'Yeah, it happened.'"

The original DML was in a storage closet, which was later

converted into the smaller space that has served as the DML for the past three years. The renovations were funded by UM's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Through QEP's donation, the DML was able to install new furniture and build the new walls that divide the new, larger space from the rest of the main floor.

"We were running out of space for students to come in and work in a collaborative effort," Price said. "We would have students from all kinds of departments waiting to go in there. There's way more square footage in this environment, so that's less of an

issue now."

In addition to the expansion of space, the lab now has six scanners, a Makerbot 3D printer, a Bamboo drawing tablet and 14 iMacs that are equipped with iMovie, GarageBand, Camstasia web cameras and the latest in Adobe software.

"We have software updates now that essentially match what you're learning in your classes," Price said. "So you're in a graphic design or mass communication class and you're using a particular Adobe product, we have it here for you to create content."

These renovations took place

over a course of three weeks during winter break. Setting up the walls and installing desks only took two days. The rest of the time was spent on finishing touches and tweaking small things. They are still in the process of networking all the new computers.

Price also plans to convert another small room within the lab into an office space where students can practice speeches, mock interviews and presentations. He plans for the room to have a computer for editing purposes as well as a green screen.

"In the past couple years, we've

seen a lot of social work students and education students needing to have a place where they can pretend to have an interview," Price said. "With the green screen they could superimpose themselves in a classroom in front of a bunch of people."

The DML is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"The wall is up, and it looks a little weird on the outside, but it's the same place," Price said. "So please, come utilize it."



Its new expanded location boasts six scanners and 14 iMacs for students to utilize.

Photos courtesy of Digital Media Lab

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Viewpoints.....2

Lifestyles...5

News.....3

Sports.....6

On Campus....4



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In defense of young adult literature

By LESLIE SMITH

I'll admit it. I love a good young adult novel. I'm not ashamed. I read all four installments of the "Lunar Chronicles" in a week. It's been almost a year since I read "We Were Liars," and I'm still not over it. I have read the "Harry Potter" series in its completion at least a dozen times. I love YA lit. There is something about these young protagonists being thrust into these fantastic and awful events that I continuously find fascinating. I like the struggle, the coming of age, the emotion.

What I do not like is the trivial way in which YA lit is treated. I recently read an article entitled "Against YA: Adults Should Be Embarrassed to Read Children's Books" by Ruth Graham for Slate.com, and as someone who is considered by law to be an adult, I was enraged. As a general rule I try not to get upset when someone does not like YA lit. There is a plethora of books for people to enjoy. What makes me angry is when someone belittles YA lit. The article I read labeled the genre as "literature for children" and proceeded to shame the readers of the genre who did not meet the age bracket (12-17).

Yes, YA lit can be a bit simple at times. There are some awful novels produced in the genre, but then again, that's true of any genre. However, just as you can't judge a book by its cover, you can't judge a genre by all its bestsellers. The article focused almost exclusively on realistic fiction within YA lit, primarily on the novel "The Fault in Our Stars." I've read the aforementioned book and the majority of author John Green's work. No, they weren't brilliant, but there are plenty of YA novels that are. One of the claims that really got me yelling was "...reading this stuff has to do with escapism, instant gratification and nostalgia." This is a true phrase. A lot of YA lit has to do with this. But then, doesn't most literature? Science fiction and fantasy are classified as escapist literature, which would therefore make "Lord of the Rings," "A Game of Thrones,"



Katie Compton | The Alabamian  
The genre to which these popular titles belong was on the chopping block in Slate.com's "Against YA: Adults Should Be Embarrassed to Read Children's Books."

"Fahrenheit 451" and "Dune" escapist literature. The majority of romance literature provides readers with instant gratification, no matter what the age bracket is. A good book, or series for that matter, will not provide its reader with instant gratification simply because they want the reader to keep reading. YA lit has produced several fantastic series such as "Harry Potter," "The Hunger Games," "The Lunar Chronicles" and "The Unwind Dystology." These New York Times bestsellers have all withheld gratification either altogether or until the tail ends of their stories. Nostalgia is a weak descriptor, as any book can be nostalgic in some form or another.

I almost threw myself from the bed I was lying on when I read the line "YA readers are asked to immerse themselves in a character's emotional life ... they are asked to abandon the mature insights into that perspective that they (supposedly) have acquired as adult." It seems to be unknown that teenagers are capable of crit-

ical reading and mature insights into written works, whether from the literary canon or from the YA genre. I have had several academic discussions on YA lit such as the political commentary in dystopian fiction, mental entropy in the "Hunger Games" and the effects of relationship presentation in fiction. The next whopper was "These endings are emblematic of the fact that the emotional and moral ambiguity of adult fiction-of the real world-is nowhere in evidence in YA fiction." If someone can be dense enough to believe that YA fiction does not have moral ambiguity and reflect aspects of the real world in fantastic ways, then I don't think I can help you.

In short, YA lit has been consistently labeled as vapid and uninteresting, and this is not a fair judgement. I love the genre. I always will, and I want to see it treated with the respect it deserves.

Review: Kung Fu Panda 3

By ADAM OTWELL



"Kung Fu Panda 3" has proven to be another great addition to this loveable franchise. While it doesn't hit the dramatic heights of the stellar second movie, it does feature the return of characters fans know and love, as well as the introduction of new side characters that they will always remember.

Po, the titular panda, finally meets his long-lost biological father Li, voiced by Bryan Cranston, which creates tension with his adoptive father, Mr. Ping, voiced by the inimitable James Hong. Soon, Po and his friends, the Furious Five, are brought together to stop the main villain, spirit warrior Kai, voiced by J.K. Simmons, who emerges from the Spirit World after stealing the chi from Po's deceased master, Oogway.

While the film does not surpass the standards of comedy or

drama set by its predecessors, it is a major step forward in the visual department. Halfway through the film, Po realizes he needs to teach the other pandas Kung Fu before Kai arrives at their village. These training scenes with Po prove to be a master class in animation technique. They combine 2D and 3D styles to create an incredible sequence of visuals.

The voice acting in "Kung Fu Panda 3" is great from start to finish. Simmons shines as Kai and is equal parts funny and intimidating. Jack Black does a predictably strong job delivering Po's funnier material, but Hong and Cranston steal the show. The way their characters portray their love for Po balances gut-busting humor with believable affection. Overall, "Kung Fu Panda 3" proves to be a fun animated spectacle for both kids and adults.

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**Alaynna Pruitt**  
Sophomore  
Social Work/Psychology major

1. "I think it's pretty pointless and a waste of time."  
2. "With your friends, it'd be less depressing."  
3. "A nice evening on the beach with my lover."



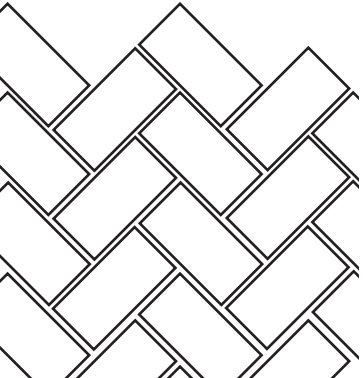
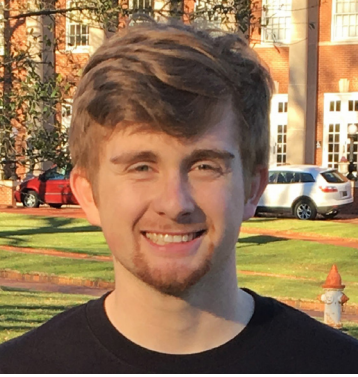
with  
**Madison Griggs**

1. What are your thoughts on Valentine's Day?  
2. What's the best way to spend Valentine's Day if you're single?  
3. Describe your perfect date.



**Elisha Williams**  
Junior Kinesiology major

1. "It should be a day of love, regardless if you're single or not."  
2. "If not by yourself self-evaluating, with your loved ones."  
3. "Probably grab some food, look at the stars, have a picnic or something."



**Judson Motes**  
Sophomore Accounting major

1. "People are either really happy or really sad. There's no middle."  
2. "Hang out with other single people."  
3. "There's gotta be food. Good food, good drinks, good times."

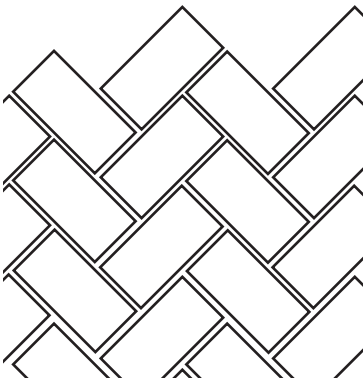


**Harley Jennings**  
Junior Theater major

1. "It's overrated, but it's cute if you're in a relationship"  
2. "At a bar"  
3. "Hanging out and getting to know the person. I'm honestly down with just watching a movie"

**Blane Freeman**  
Junior Music Education and Performance major

1. "It's a great holiday for couples."  
2. "Get drunk."  
3. "Dinner and then a helicopter ride."



The Alabamian

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# An interview with 2016 Vacca Professor

By JASMYNE RAY

In 1985, Alabama Sen. Paschal P. Vacca donated \$600,000 to the University of Montevallo. This in turn qualified the school to receive \$400,000 from the state as well. Since then, the money has been used to bring different scholars to the school to fill the position of Vacca Chair of Liberal

Arts. This year’s scholar is Dr. Myron Beasley from Bates College in Maine. Before his time at Bates College, Beasley was a faculty member at Brown University. “It’s really nice to spend time at another liberal arts college in a different geographical location,” Beasley said. While here, Beasley will be

teaching an Intro to African-American Studies course along with an Honors Seminar in Critical Culture. “It’s a theory course in which we think about how even discourses in popular culture persuade us to do a lot of things,” said Beasley. “And often times visual culture and popular culture are so powerful that many people are persuaded to do things that they normally wouldn’t do or think in ways that they normally wouldn’t think because they’re unable to or they’ve never had experiences of learning how to read those visual cues.” The African-American studies course will focus on artists and visual cultures like films, video and performance art, as well as what they reveal about African-American culture. As a critical scholar, Beasley focuses his studies on emancipation and liberation. “I’m really interested in how power works in several communities and how to facilitate platforms of debunking some of those oppressive discourses.” The goal is to get people to

think differently about what goes on around them. In addition to being an associate professor in African-American studies and cultural studies, Beasley also specializes in Women and Gender studies and identifies as a feminist. “Feminism is for everybody,” Beasley said. “Feminism is not just about the oppression of women. It’s about discourses that oppress everyone.” Beasley’s studies focus on ethnographic research and exploring the different ways cultural politics, art and social change intersect. His research has taken him all over the country as well as to Morocco, Brazil and Haiti. While in Haiti in 2010, he was involved in a project looking at female street food vendors while simultaneously working on a project with the Grand Rural, a junkyard community that makes art out of garbage. He wrote about the people and what they were doing as a way to support them. He left two days before the tragic earthquake that ravaged the entire country. With a passion and fascination for the field and the people who

create it, Beasley sees power in art. “I look at artists as cultural workers,” Beasley said. “I look at them as theorists because they can communicate a local thought, theory, social injustices and politics in ways that the written or spoken word can’t.” He looks to different art forms as a way to communicate his research in “another language.” While he’s here, Beasley is looking forward to working and partnering with faculty on the African-American studies minor that will soon be proposed. He also looks forward to working with students, hopefully forming bonds that will carry on when he leaves campus. To him, the intellectual and academic enterprise is about collaborating with, encouraging and supporting people. Currently, Beasley is planning different times for students to gather with him at Hill House for “an intellectual exchange.” “I am here as a resource to students, primarily, and I currently have an open door policy,” Beasley said. “I really hope that students will drop by and see me every now and then either just to say hello or introduce themselves.”



Katie Compton / The Alabamian  
Beasley will teach an Intro to African-American Studies and an Honors Seminar in Critical Culture during his time at UM.

# Repairs imminent for caf pizza oven

By AMALIA KORTRIGHT

The pizza ovens in Anna Irvin Dining Hall have been reported broken as of last week, leaving UM students without access to pizza in the cafeteria. According to Falcon Foods Director Scott Giddens, “part of the wiring harness burned up.” Reactions to the news of the broken ovens have been mixed. “I think [the staff is] disappointed

that they’re not able to provide something that their customers want,” said Giddens. “I’m sure that a certain number of students are disappointed. We sell less pizza now than we have as of last year, so a lot of students are making other choices anyway but I’m sure many are disappointed. I’m disappointed.” According to junior Kenzie

Cook, “It doesn’t affect me. I don’t really eat the pizza anyway.” The UM Physical Plant has been notified. According to Giddens, the parts that are necessary to fix the ovens have already shipped from the manufacturer. “Hopefully, we will be back up and running by next week,” said Giddens.



Amalia Kortright | The Alabamian  
New parts for the pizza oven have been ordered after a wiring issue caused the machine to malfunction.

# The flight path of FalconNet

By GEORDIE KENNEDY

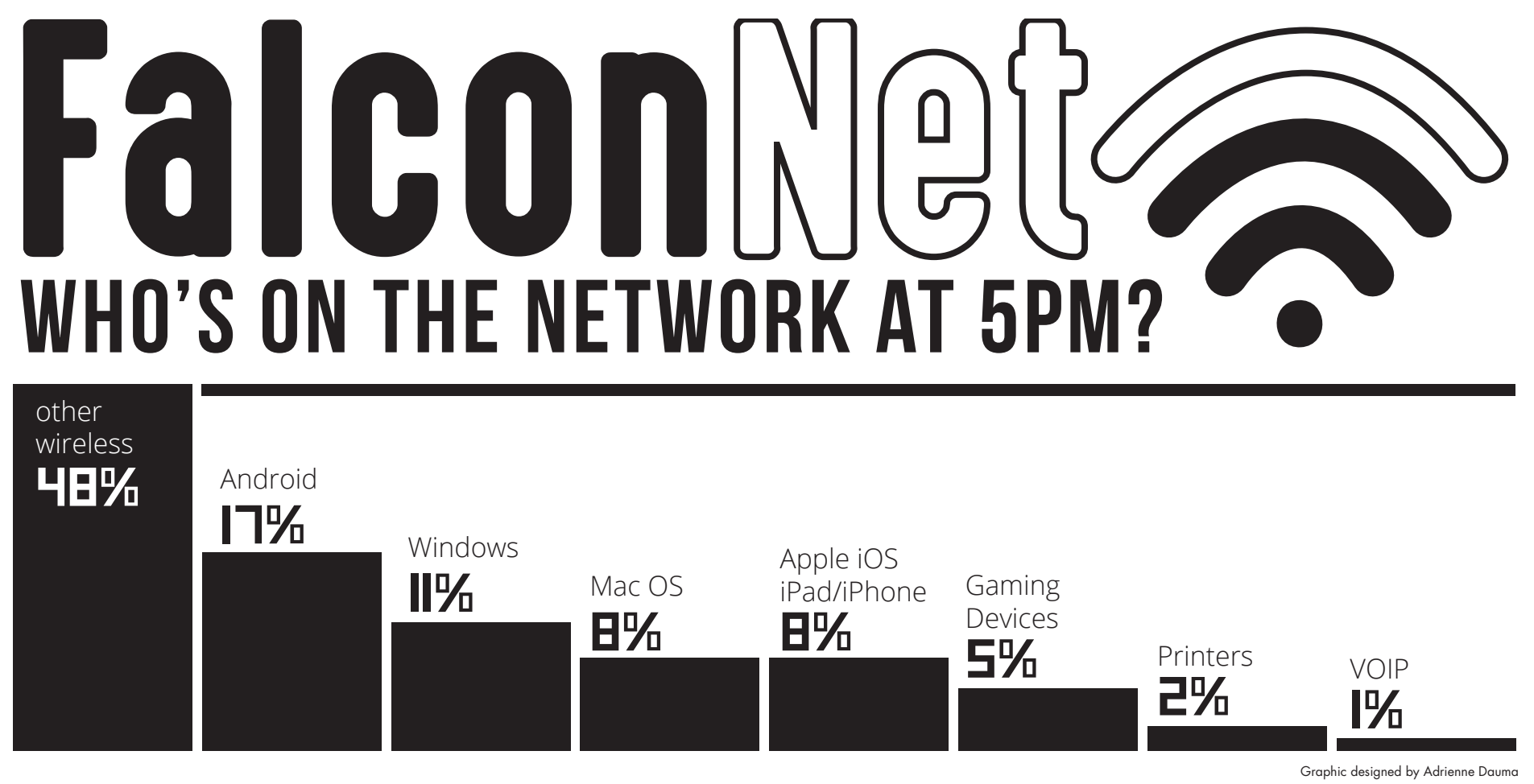
Since its implementation over the summer, FalconNet, the university’s local Wi-Fi service, has seen its share of both successes and challenges as it adapts to the needs of students and faculty alike. “It’s okay,” said junior Daniel Lewis. “But it could still use a little tuning.” This “tuning” is exactly what the University has planned. Goals such as a 400 percent increase in bandwidth and a 10 gigabit fiber optic backbone have already been laid out, providing a secure basis for changes to come. “I feel like we’re in a stable spot,” said Craig Gray, chief information officer for the University. In fact, FalconNet has seen few setbacks since a glitch early last semester which required the replacement of all of the newly

installed Ruckus access points for more reliable models. Since then, bandwidth usability has been increased 200 percent with more to come. The next measure to be undertaken will be a process known as application filtering. This will place a cap on bandwidth hogging applications such as Netflix. Despite this, students should not worry about their precious shows and movies. Application filtering should not affect individual streaming except in extreme cases and will instead allow more reliable internet usage for all users of a particular connection. Furthermore, websites known for heavy virus and malware traffic will be blocked entirely. A pressing concern currently being addressed is that of Wi-Fi in academic buildings. “You can tell different buildings need it more,” said freshman Sarah

Doherty. This is due to an outdated, degrading fiber system between buildings. This system is being repaired. Soon, the internet service in academic buildings from Comer to Reynolds should function with a connection like FalconNet. Similar questions have arisen about the secondary Wi-Fi service, UMGaming. This connection has sparked concern due to its inability to actually support online games, which are wildly popular on campus. According to Gray, this is not the intended purpose of the connection. UMGaming is to instead be used as a side network for those who are, for whatever reason, unable to access FalconNet. If a student’s device can connect to FalconNet, they do not need UMGaming. This upcoming summer, UMGaming will be removed for a more cohesive platform, so students should

expect a slightly different Wi-Fi registration process next year. Gray is confident with present efforts. “If you don’t have infrastructure,” he said. “Any innovation is going to fall flat.” However, that does raise the question of what is to come. As far as general infrastructural changes, the primary focus, according to Gray, will be in the campus’ IT department. Currently, IT only has seven technicians employed but hopes to boast upwards of 21 in the near future. The previously outsourced service is being removed in favor of a University office that already has its own help desk. Students are encouraged to call 205-665-6512 for any technical issues. Early next term, around September or October, plans for an entirely new IT office are to go into effect. Even now, Gray asserts that the connection is miles ahead of

where it stood in previous years. “We’ve connected more devices than we’ve ever seen before,” said Gray. He maintains that this strong support is intended to not only persist, but greatly improve as time goes on. Once all of the basic groundwork has been laid out involving FalconNet, bandwidth usage and IT, the University has a multitude of exciting plans for future innovation. Such plans include a possible 3D printing lab and more technologically interactive classrooms involving lecture streaming and other such amenities. “We have a lot of work to do,” said Gray, but he remains confident in the service. While students still have their questions and complaints, Gray welcomes the input as the University seeks to create a smoother and more reliable wireless service.





# Cuddle buddies for College Night

By ALLI PATTON



Students from all College Night sides had the chance to stuff their own cows, lions and frogs in celebration of UM's homecoming tradition. Amolia Kortright | The Alabamian

On the eve of the College Night sign raising and pep rally, a duel of colors broke out in Anna Irvin Dining Hall. Among the wreckage of cotton stuffing and bovine, feline and amphibian carcasses, students showed their side pride by stuffing a new friend. Stuff-a-Friend, a University Program Council (UPC) sponsored event, was held in honor of the upcoming and highly antici-

pated College Night, where Purple and Gold sides put up their dukes in the name of victory. Students were struck with flashbacks of Saturday afternoons in war-torn Build-a-Bear Workshops as they grappled for the boxfuls of cottony-fiber for the sake their lifeless pals. Golden lions roared for their cotton hunger to be quenched. Spotted cows bellowed for a stuffing fix.

The frogs' green appendages went limp to be filled. Fortunately, there were no casualties as opponents put their differences aside to make a new fur baby. "Gold has always been my choice," said Trent Rawlins, when asked why he chose a lion friend. "I liked the people, and I knew more Golds. They're very inviting, I guess," said Claire Caddell, with

a jungle cat she named Victory. Cows, however, were in short supply. Ashton Kupferberg, Purple Side spirit leader, managed to snag one. She used a specific technique to craft her cow. "I'm stuffing the head first and then I'm going to do halfway down the body so that way I can implant the star where his heart's supposed to be," said Kupferberg.

Aside from a slight hitch when it came to the heifers, Purples were still happy to fill a froggy companion. By the end of the night, stuffed lions were parading around the savannas of Montevallo, marking their territories, while cushiony cows roamed the grasses and frogs friends hopped throughout campus.

FREE

5 FEB

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10 FEB

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19 FEB

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EVENTS



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Jasmyne Ray | The Alabamian  
Abie Thomas shows off her model-off-duty style with a leather jacket, black denim and black booties.

# Fashion on the bricks

By JASMYNE RAY

Model-off-duty (MOD) style is a trend so easy anyone can get it right. It doesn't get any better or easier than messy hair, slouchy tees and ripped jeans. All it takes is pairing the right simple pieces together to make the perfect effortless look.

The trend started by simply observing what models wore as they were leaving fashion shows and is the perfect combination of comfy and cool. You can keep it high fashion by dressing down a statement top or band tee with a pair distressed jeans, or you can try a more athleisure approach and pair sweats with a slouchy tee and cool sneakers.

Sophomore Abie Thomas lives by the MOD look but gives it her own personal twist.

"I feel like in high school I was really afraid to wear what I wanted to wear," Thomas said. "You couldn't wear crop tops. You

couldn't wear ripped jeans, and so when I got to college, I was able to experiment."

Thomas' usual ensemble consists of jeans, a band tee and her trusty leather jacket or a dress paired with knee high socks and booties. Thrift stores are her go-to for band tees and sweaters, but she also favors Free People and Urban Outfitters despite their price tags.

Instagram and Tumblr are two of her main sources for inspiration, as well as YouTuber HeyClaire and celebrity Vanessa Hudgens.

"Her style over the years, like her Coachella [look] and her day to day style," said Thomas. "We just have similar style."

A New Years' style resolution for Thomas is to start accessorizing more and layering necklaces.

"I would say to not wear black as much, but let's be real," Thomas said. "It's just the best color. It just makes sense. It looks good with everything."

# This day in history

By DANIELLE STALLWORTH

On Feb. 4, 2004, Harvard University student Mark Zuckerberg launched Facebook, the most popular social networking service in the world.

Facebook was founded by Zuckerberg and his roommates Chris Hughes, Eduardo Saverin, Andrew McCollum and Dustin Moskovitz.

According to Business Insider, it started out as Facemash, a game that pulled student photos from Harvard's website and allowed them to compare their peers by attractiveness. After coming under scrutiny, the site was relaunched as the Facebook, a social network. The "the" was removed in 2005.

Facebook was originally limited to Harvard students but soon extended to other colleges in the area and then to most universities and corporations in Canada and the U.S. By late 2006, anyone over the age of 13 with an email address could use the service.



**PLAYLIST**

## L'AMOUR

**"My Cherie Amour" - Stevie Wonder**

An oldie but a goodie, Wonder piles all the warm and fuzzy feelings of a new crush into this track. From first glances and realizations of feelings to pining for your crush's affection, all the stages of a new infatuation are covered.

**"Silly Love Songs (Glee Cast Version)" - Glee Cast**

If there's a song that perfectly captures how so many of us feel about the seemingly never-ending supply of love songs, it's this one. When it seems as if there can't possibly be another metaphor to be made or cheesy line to be crooned about falling in love, a new hit emerges. But who's to say that's a bad thing?

**"Endlessly" - Green River Ordinance**

This song is about the hesitation and uncertainty that comes

along with any new relationship and being absolutely head over heels for someone. It's a simple song that could send butterflies swirling in anybody's stomach while thinking about that special someone.

**"What You Don't Do (Tom Misch Remix)" - Lianne La Havas**

This alternative R&B track is soothing to both the listener's ears and heart with its sweetly sung reminder that it's the small things, rather than the grand gestures, that show how deeply you care for someone.

**"Saying I Love You" - Girls**

At first, this track sounds like groan-inducing, sickly sweet couple talk. "How can I say I need you now that you've said I need you," singer Christopher Owens gently croons to his partner. The knife comes after the third verse. For the rest of this sunny song's

three minutes, the listener is treated to an "It's A Small World" like ride through the same verses, with each go around hurting a little more each time.

**"Mine" - Beyonce**

"Mine" depicts the uncertainty of the future of a relationship in a way that's both lyrically vivid and emotionally raw. A chant like chorus and a stripped down outro by Drake make the song addictive, leaving you clinging to the one you love with everything you have.

**"Nothing Else Matters" - Metallica**

Do you find yourself wishing your love songs had a little more heft? Are you upset with the lack of rip-roaring guitar solos in the hits of Maroon 5? Is Taylor Swift too much of a whiner for you? If so, then all signs point to this classic Metallica track. "Couldn't be much more from the heart" has never been a more awesome thing to profess.

**"Wrestlers" - Hot Chip**

This bounce house of a song uses the outsized language of pro wrestling to illustrate a couple's sex life as well as past conflicts.

The goofy, aloof verses at first seem lighthearted, until a sobering slow jam chorus reveals how much of a bruise certain moves can make.

**"Something" - Julien Baker**

There is no love like love lost, and 20 year old Julien Baker captures the pain of that loss with pinpoint precision in this stunning track. "I knew you were gone months ago, but I can't think of anyone else," she sings, only barely able to let the words escape her lips. For those who know the pain of a love gone wrong, there is no greater comfort than knowing that someone else has felt that emptiness.

**"Anyone Else But You" - The Moldy Peaches**

This lilting duet tells the story of falling in love with your best friend, with all the highs and lows that brings. The lyrics veer from sweet to strange in a raw bearing of two souls as they try to describe their own intertwining. It's one of those songs that compels you to find someone with whom to sing it, because you know it's built just for that. Plus, if Michael Cera can manage it for "Juno," anyone can.

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The Alabamian

# Calendar of Events

Upcoming	Ongoing
<div><div>Thursday, Feb. 4</div><div>12:00 p.m. American Red Cross Blood Drive Farmer Hall Meeting Room</div><div>4:00 p.m. Softball vs. Lee Softball Field</div><div>7:30 p.m. Harry Potter Club Meeting Comer 205</div><div>Friday, Feb. 5</div><div>5:00 p.m. Women's Lacrosse Season Opener Track and Field Stadium</div><div>Saturday, Feb. 6</div><div>12:00 p.m. Baseball Game Baseball Stadium</div><div>1:30 p.m. Women's Basketball SAC</div><div>2:00 p.m. College Night Ultimate Frisbee Game Intramural fields</div><div>3:00 p.m. Baseball Game Baseball Stadium</div><div>3:30 p.m. Men's Basketball SAC</div></div> <div><div>Sunday, Feb. 7</div><div>1:00 p.m. Baseball Game Baseball Stadium</div><div>1:00 p.m. Tennis Match Tennis Courts</div><div>2:00 p.m. College Night Women's Basketball Game Myrick Gym</div><div>Monday, Feb. 8</div><div>5:00 p.m. Intramural Volleyball Coaches' Meeting Farmer Hall Meeting Room</div><div>Wednesday, Feb. 10</div><div>11:00 a.m. UPC Relaxation Station Anna Irving Dining Hall</div><div>7:00 p.m. College Night Opening Night Palmer Hall</div><div>Friday, Feb. 12</div><div>2:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting Merril Room</div><div>Saturday, Feb. 13</div><div>2:00 p.m. College Night Men's Basketball Game Myrick Gym</div><div>7:00 p.m. College Night Final Shows Palmer Hall</div></div>	<div><div>Mondays</div><div>5:00 p.m. Water Aerobics SAC Pool</div><div>5:00 p.m. Zumba Bibb Graves Dance Studio</div><div>6:00 p.m. Spectrum Weekly Meeting Farmer Hall Meeting Room</div><div>7:00 p.m. Kickboxing Bibb Graves Dance Studio</div><div>7:00 p.m. Korean Culture Club meeting Reynolds 226</div><div>8:30 p.m. University of Montevallo Anime Club meeting Harman 120</div><div>Tuesdays</div><div>5:00 p.m. Yoga Bibb Graves Dance Studio</div><div>5:00 p.m. The Alabamian Weekly Meetings Student Publications Office</div><div>7:30 p.m. Montevallo Organization of Gaming Harman 221, 225, 226, 229, 232</div><div>8:00 p.m. Resonate worship service Baptist Campus Ministry</div><div>Wednesdays</div><div>11:00 a.m. Cafe Escape Baptist Campus Ministry</div><div>5:00 p.m. Water Aerobics SAC Pool</div><div>5:00 p.m. Zumba Bibb Graves Dance Studio</div><div>7:00 p.m. Kickboxing Bibb Graves Dance Studio</div><div>7:30 p.m. Chess Club of Montevallo Harman 232</div><div>8:00 p.m. Whovian Society Meeting Comer 205</div><div>Thursdays</div><div>5:00 p.m. Yoga Bibb Graves Dance Studio</div><div>7:00 p.m. Montevallo Cosplay Association Comer 308</div><div>7:30 p.m. Montevallo Organization of Gaming Harman 221, 225, 226, 229, 232</div><div>Fridays</div><div>5:00 p.m. Montage Weekly Meetings Student Publication Office</div></div>



# Men’s Basketball Flying to the front of the Peach Belt Conference

By ALEX TEJADA

Saturday, Jan. 30 marked the Falcons’ 13th win of the season and arguably their most impressive so far. The 109-85 victory on the road at Armstrong State was only two points shy of a Montevallo conference points record. Terrell Lipkins’ career high 41 points were two shy of the Montevallo single game scoring record. Lipkins’ 22.2 points per game average is fourth in the Peach Belt, and he also has 39 steals to go along with that consistent scoring total. Bryant Orange, who averages 7.5 rebounds per game, contributed 25 points during Saturday’s romp in Savannah.

The season got off to a rocky start after an opening win over Carver Bible. The Falcons suffered three straight losses, two to Tuskegee, including a heartbreaking two-point loss at home. They won an overtime thriller over Stillman to start December before winning the Miles College Classic, beating the hosts by four.

The Falcons were 3-0 over the holiday season, which marked the start of conference play. Three consecutive home victories against Francis Marion, Augusta and Georgia Southwestern looked to have the Falcons pointed in the right direction.

However, they opened January with three straight road losses including a 13-point defeat at Georgia College.

Since a 9-point defeat against a below .500 UNC Pembroke team, the Falcons have won six consecu-

tive games and are tied for second in the Peach Belt with Columbus State. Both are 9-3 in the conference and trail leaders Lander by one game. The current run was started with a 20-point home victory over Young Harris. They followed that up with a win over the conference leaders, taking a 73-69 win away from Lander in overtime. A Martin Luther King Day victory against USC Aiken was further cause for joy before a massive rematch with Georgia College.

The initial rematch date of Friday, Jan. 22 was pushed back two days because of inclement weather. Assistant Coach Nathan Kennedy attributed the extra day off as part of the reason for the 85-77 revenge victory over the Bobcats. Montevallo overcame their last-in-conference free throw woes, and Malik Fields capped a huge day off the bench with 28 points. North Georgia put up more of a fight than their poor record would have suggested, yet the Falcons survived a one-point road test before Saturday’s statement of intent.

February will be a defining month for the Montevallo team as they play seven conference games before ending with the conference tournament, which starts Feb. 27. The road test with Georgia Southwestern will be followed up by a rematch with North Georgia. The Falcons face two huge home clashes with top of the conference



Senior Terrell Lipkins shoots against Young Harris. The Falcons managed a 20 point victory over the Mountain Lions that kickstarted their current hot streak.

opposition on Feb.10 and 13. Columbus State and Clayton State come to Trustmark Arena before the Falcons face Columbus State in Georgia. They close the home season against Flagler before concluding the regular season against Young Harris.

Head coach Danny Young has seen a team of transfer players gel as the season has run its course. Fields has seen reduced minutes, but his work rate has been first

class. He has been an example for the rest of the team. Talan Whitaker and Tevin Worthy have teamed up with Fields in a Montevallo frontcourt force that ranks third in the conference in rebounding margin. Lipkins leads the team with 22.2 points per game, and Orange puts in key contributions with points, rebounds and assists. The diverse skill set of Orange alongside Lipkins has been amplified by the

hustle of Kevin Kelly. The junior from Houston found a starting position after the initial rocky start to the season and has yet to look back. Vaughn Autry has been a revelation off of the bench, hitting just below 50 percent from 3-point range. Hopefully, the intensity generated by the Falcon’s style of play will lead to Peach Belt conference success and an NCAA tournament appearance.

# Women’s field lacrosse team set to make UM, state history Feb. 1

By REED STRENGTH

A team of girls thunder down a grass field, their cleats kicking up tufts of the ground beneath them. Each brandishes a large stick topped with a mesh net hugged tightly to their chests.

Three give chase as another player with a ball in her net cuts swiftly across the grass. The ball carrier constantly rocks her stick back and forth in her hand. The motion keeps the coveted object tucked safely in the vertical net, even while she runs down the field.

With a lightning fast flick, the player hurdles the ball towards a small netted goal.

The description above is a mere 20 second snapshot of a Friday practice by the inaugural University of Montevallo women’s field lacrosse team. The girls are set to make their mark in UM history by playing the program’s first ever game on Friday, Feb. 5 against Point University.

The match is not only historic for the University but the state of Alabama as well. It will be the first ever National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II game of women’s field lacrosse played in the Heart of Dixie.

For those unfamiliar with the game, lacrosse is a close contact sport with roots traced to a traditional game played by certain Native American tribes.

“We keep telling people, the great thing about lacrosse is it really gives Americans everything they want in sports. There’s a lot of activity, it’s fast paced, a lot of scoring,” Head Coach Frank Rogers said. “Really all you got to worry about is cheer loud when we put the ball in the back of the net and enjoy it.”

Rogers, who helped start programs at Brevard College in North Carolina and Aquinas College in Michigan, is confident in the diverse team he and Assistant Coach Kalyn Spatol have molded.

The current roster features girls from nine different U.S. states and three different Canadian provinces, most of them freshmen.

Junior Maddie Ellis and sophomore Lauren Duckworth are two of only three upperclassmen. They previously played collegiate lacrosse at Brevard College and the University of Alberta respectively.

Ellis plays as an attacker and is a major force of the team’s offensive strategy.

The position calls for passing and shooting the ball to score goals, as well as attempting to allow other teammates to become open.

The opposite position is defense, which attempts to slow down the opposing team and prevent them from scoring.

Duckworth plays mid-field, which Rogers describes as the “workhorse” position of the game. Mid-fielders blend the other two positions together and run the length of the field to help where they can. The final position is the goalie, which, like its cousin in soccer, blocks opponents’ shots from entering the net.



UM’s lacrosse team practices on the intramural fields a week before their Feb. 5 game against Point University.

The girls said forming a team culture was a quick process. “We all had respect for each other right off the bat, so once that was established we saw that we were able to grow as a team,” said Duckworth.

When not on the field or on the third floor of Brooke Hall, the team is easily identifiable by the lacrosse sticks they constantly tote to class, caf and everywhere else. The girls have used their UM peers’ natural curiosity about the sticks to slowly gather interest in their debut match.

Currently, the women’s lacrosse team’s first season will consist of 16 games that will send the girls as far away as Oklahoma

and West Virginia.

According to Rogers, UM is part of a mash up lacrosse conference consisting of teams from both the Peach Belt and Gulf South conferences.

Despite the unconventional nature of the season, Spatol said the team has felt right at home at the university known for unconventional wisdom. “Being a team that does represent so many different parts of the country and the world, it’s nice to come to a place that is so accepting of a new culture in and of itself,” she said.

“I can’t wait to show everyone how hard we’ve worked since the beginning of September,” said

Duckworth. “Including other lacrosse teams, other sports teams and everyone who sees our sticks and wonders what lacrosse exactly is, I can’t wait to show them.”

Though the team is just starting out, Ellis warned against underestimating them. “I think a lot of opposing teams have this preconceived notion that because we’re a first year team, it’s gonna be an easy win for them, and we’re out here to show them that’s not the case,” she said.

The Fighting Falcons will play the Point University Skyhawks on Friday, Feb. 5 at 5 p.m at the Track and Field Stadium on Shelby Street.

Lacrosse Home Game Schedule		
Feb. 5 - Point University @ 5 p.m.	Feb. 27 - Shorter @ 1:00 p.m.	March 19 - Emmanuel @ 12:00 p.m.
Feb. 10 - Ala.-Huntsville @ 4:30 p.m.	March 5 - Truett-McConnell @ 1:00 p.m.	March 23 - Oglethorpe @ 5:00 p.m.
Feb. 13 - Reinhardt @ 2:00 p.m.	March 11 - Tennessee Wesleyan @ 5:00 p.m.	April 10 - Young Harris @ 1:00 p.m.